Fort Field Dunmouth 1

April 2 35

Dearest Rene I was most awfully pleased to get your letter. I feel it so long since I had heard from you & wondered how you were. I heard from dear Prudence & she said or I understood that you were all going to Mill House but I suppose I misunderstood the letter. I take you don't feel homesick (and at Paris). I'm awfully glad anyway that you feel a bit better. When do you have visions - at W.R or with the gunners - or do you take your little billy can & smuggle by your own fire. Prudence told me she had knocked off a great-coat for you - I'm so glad - I do like it keeps you warm & cosy. I wish you were here - yes I have been having a prolonged mis-nell - parts the old mysterious neurosis or whatever it is, & partly not knowing what to do next & not being able to settle to anything & not ~~want~~ being able to write - not a word of the book done in six months - none done since that come-over at Hartland - I'm so afraid of sinking into a rut with this rest cure & never being able to put on any pressure again - yet what can I do? - well if this rest cure don't work there is only the red Psychologist still left. Good damn - I loath them. I've got to try & write to Vicky - its secret but she is going to marry that Elrose Bernard & that means cut off for the Neills Churchs & Co. ~~always~~ as far as we can see. - its jolly difficult to know what to say. I do think its disgusting & the sort of thing

* I have it time to read this! This letter became of the Prat

that may get mine dessicat & it involves all that miserable muddle of real values & the rules of the church & anything — as my one can obtains my choice for herself — I do like the the letter is extraordinary. How cette for me he said. he liked to see. I'm yesterday morning I've sent the photographs of the others Knights of Prudence — but they are not much cops. after all no I've never heard of that translation of the Odyssey be Rouse — wasn't he a murderer!

How was Lady Chich. when I saw her — was she terrifying? The sea went out a long long way today & I walked out along that bay & the night & seemed to be on the ocean bed with enormous masses of seaweed Bank over the rocks & waving in the shallow pools looking like the Sargassa sea I looked for living things but only found a dead crab. — I wish we could all get again at Hartland — I do miss dear Prudence — I had an idea of going to Cranstock in Cornwall — & another of going to the Scilly Isles — I shall probably just stay here. I do like hearing from you & getting — I did send some verses — I am writing to her — I wanted to write when I felt more cheerful & cried with at length. I manage to write to Harmer at length — he wrote me a nice letter — he's being away a long spot I writing to. again — I'm glad I've done a bit more to your poem. Please God I shall get in some more revision soon — I do like so.

Provence sent me Admiral Collingwood letters
They are so good in black - spoiled my eyes
they kept him at sea for above 10 years
without leave watching the Frogs & Spaniards
the worst half fed ship above it too -
& tells some stroke of the Admiralty - that
he would have had six sons to carry on
the honour of the family if they had not
kept him away for some so long - We're the
boys who make no noise.
The man who took the photographs at Ottery
is incidentally called Bad cock. - but
I loath coarse talk..
Collingwood wrote home a nice description
of the Cape St Vincent show - a
my dearest Sarah - I am sure you will
be glad to hear how we ate such a day
as we had on the 14th (Valentine's day). It was
indeed a glorious one, and it seldom falls to
the lot of any man to share such a triumph
First my love, I am as well as ever I was in
my life, & have pretty well got the better of my
fatigue. Now for victory. We were cruising off
sea off Cape St Vincent with fifteen sail
of the line, when the Admiral first received
information of a Spanish fleet of twenty-eight sail
of the line..... making in all forty sail.
We were fifteen... We determined to attack them
(good old Belloc)..... I had the good fortune
to get very early into action - the first ship
we engaged was the San Salvador del Mundo

a Collingwood was a captain.
or Cape St Vincent

of 112 guns, a first-rate; — we were no further from her than the length of our garden. Her colours soon came down & her fire ceased. A soon as possible Bulls dog treed. — O another nice bit we were engaged an hour with this ship, and trimmed her well. — [redacted] —

I have got a Spanish Double-headed shot fired from the Santissima Trinidada, which I intend as a present to pr father to put among this curiosities — it weighs 50 lbs. These are no jokes when they fly about one's head God bless you my dearest Love may you ever be happy. End of letter

In a pub — drinking gingers — a pub in the town — I don't think you came to it. when you were here — but pubs are not much go are they without a chum — I liked your little wild violets on the ground I have met various of service fellows in pubs here — but no one with any stuff — all of 'em seem to have been in the A.S.C. Tallstaff wallahs are Canteen Wallahs who sleep in beds.

I must go back to the Fort & go through the menus — hope I've get them to-morrow morning. Dear Prudence has asked me to go to Falmer & is kind of her — but you know I never shift when I get anywhere & there is the Command thing & various bemedalments I should be

Please write again when I'm in camp again. Tallstaff's address a help — hey allright. —